



1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Brigade  
Public Affairs Office



1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division

Taji, Iraq

**Col. Daniel J. Shanahan**

**Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Brigade**

Colonel Daniel J. Shanahan grew up in Michigan and calls Traverse City, Mich., home.

He graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1982 with a Bachelor of Arts degree concentrating in Aero-Space Engineering. He was commissioned an armor officer and attended the Armor Basic Course at Fort Knox, Ky.

After attending Initial Entry Rotary Wing flight training at Fort Rucker, Ala., he was assigned to Fort Lewis, Wash., where he served as flight platoon leader, company executive officer and company operations officer in the 9th Combat Aviation Brigade. He attended the Aviation Officers Advanced Course at Fort Rucker, Ala., in 1986. He attended the Combined Arms Services Staff School the next year and was assigned as the first aviation observer-controller, serving two years at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Little Rock Air Force Base and Fort Chaffee, Ariz. From 1989 to 1992, then a captain, he commanded Company A, 3-25 Aviation Battalion; served as battalion operations officer for 3-25 Aviation Battalion; and commanded Company B, 3-25 Aviation Battalion, in Fort Drum, N.Y.

He attended the Command and General Staff College in 1992 at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. He served joint duty at U.S. Forces Command headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., from 1993 to 1995, conducting counter-drug operations in the Caribbean and along the southwest border of the United States. He was assigned to Europe in 1995, where he served as executive officer and operations officer for 2-7 Aviation Battalion. He served as aide-de-camp for the commander in chief, U.S. Army Europe, in Heidelberg, Germany, and Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1996. He served as chief, current operations, on the USAREUR staff in Heidelberg

the next year. Shanahan was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division as the deputy chief of staff in November 1997, where he served until taking command of 2-4 Aviation Battalion in July 1998. He returned to the Joint Readiness Training Center in July 2000, this time at Fort Polk, La., where he served as the senior aviation trainer for one year.

Shanahan attended the U.S. Army War College in 2001, participating in the Advanced Strategic Arts Program. He served as chief, Leadership Division, Human Resources Directorate, on the Army Staff in 2002. He returned to Fort Hood in 2003 as the rear detachment commander for the 4th Infantry Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed with III Corps to Iraq as the Multinational Command-Iraq Air operations officer in 2004.

On May 26, 2005, Shanahan assumed command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Air Cavalry Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division. The brigade has been in Iraq since October 2006.

Shanahan holds Master's Degrees in Public Administration from Central Michigan University and Military Strategy from the U.S. Army War College. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, and the Army Achievement Medal. He is a Master Army Aviator and an Army Parachutist.